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KARL MORELL

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August 2, 2007

BY HAND DELIVERY

Victoria Rutson  
Chief  
Section of Environmental Analysis  
Surface Transportation Board  
395 E Street S.W.  
Washington, DC 20423

Re: STB Docket No. AB-341 (Sub-No. 1XX Southwestern Railroad  
Company, Inc. — Abandonment Exemption — In Ellis County, Texas and  
Lipscomb, Ochiltree and Hansford Counties, Texas

Dear Ms. Rutson:

On June 22, 2007, we forwarded to you the Environmental Report and Historic Report in the above-captioned matter. Attached please find ten (10) copies of an additional response we received from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Sincerely,



Karl Morell

Enclosures

USFWS  
RECEIVED

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JUL 03 2007

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KARL MORELL  
OF COUNSEL

June 22, 2007

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
500 Gold Avenue, SW  
Albuquerque, NM 87102

**RE: STB Docket No. AB-341 (Sub-No. IX), Southwestern Railroad  
Company, Inc. - Abandonment Exemption - Ellis County, OK  
and Lipscomb, Ochiltree and Hansford Counties, TX**

Dear Sir/Madam:

On or shortly after July 11, 2007, Southwestern Railroad Company, Inc. ("SWRR"), will be filing with the Surface Transportation Board ("STB") a Petition for Exemption seeking authority to abandon its 85.3-mile rail line located between milepost 0.10, at Shattuck, Oklahoma, and milepost 85.4, at Spearman, in Ellis County, Oklahoma and Lipscomb, Ochiltree and Hansford Counties, Texas (the "Line"). Attached is a copy of the Environmental Report describing the proposed action and any expected environmental effects, as well as a map of the affected area.

We are providing this report so that you may review the information that will form the basis for the STB's independent environmental analyses of this proceeding. If any of the information is misleading or incorrect, if you believe that pertinent information is missing, or if you have any questions about the STB's environmental review process, please contact the Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA), Surface Transportation Board, 395 E Street S.W., Washington, DC 20423, Telephone (202) 245-0295, and refer to the above Docket No. AB-341 (Sub-No. IX). Because the applicable statutes and regulations impose stringent deadlines for processing this action, your written comments to SEA (with a copy to the undersigned) would be appreciated within 3 weeks.

**NO ACTION**

Date: 7

Consultation #: amaO-J3p07-IT 03 07

Approved by

*Thomas J. Cloud, Jr.*

Thomas J. Cloud, Jr., Field Supervisor  
U.S. FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE, ARLINGTON, TEXAS

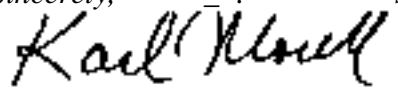
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June 22, 2007

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Your comments will be considered by the STB in evaluating the environmental and/or historic preservation impacts of the contemplated action. If there are any questions concerning this proposal, please contact the undersigned by telephone at (202) 638-3307 or by mail at Ball Janik LLP, 1455 F Street, N.W., Suite 225, Washington, DC 20005.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Karl Morell". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Karl Morell

Attorney for:

Southwestern Railroad Company, Inc.